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Showalter to be keynote speaker at MC dinner

Special to The Clinton Courier

Mississippi College athletic director Mike Jones recently announced that Baltimore Orioles manager Buck Showalter will be the featured speaker at the 2017 Dr. Don Phillips Athletics Dinner, to be held on

Thursday, November 9. The banquet is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. in Anderson Hall in the middle of the MC campus.

"Our athletic department at Mississippi College owes much of our success directly to the Athletics Dinner," said Jones. "We are blessed to have the level of support we receive from our friends and alumni and look forward to another great year."

Showalter is a threetime manager of the year, winning the award in 1994, 2004 and 2014. Buck Showalter He just wrapped up his

eighth season as the manager for Baltimore and currently ranks fourth among active Major League managers with 1,429 career victo-

He earned First Team All-America honors in 1977 at Mississippi State University, where he established a still-standing school record for batting average (.459) and a then team-mark for RBIs (44).

Showalter spent the first nineteen seasons of his professional baseball career in the New York Yankees organization, playing for seven years in the minor league system before becoming a coach and eventually the league's youngest manager in each of his four seasons (1992-95). Showalter also had managerial stints with the Arizona Diamondbacks and the Texas Rangers, where he ranks fourth in victories with 319 for Texas.

"We are obviously thrilled to have

Buck as our speaker this year," said Jones. "He has had unbelievable success as a manager with the Yankees, Diamondback, Rangers and now the Orioles."

Showalter graduated from Mississippi State University with a Bachelor of Science degree in education



in 1979. His father, the late William Nathaniel II, was an All-American fullback at Milligan College in Tennessee and then served as principal at Century High School for twenty-three years.

Showalter was called "Nat" throughout his youth before acquiring the nickname "Buck" from Ed Napoleon, his manager at Fort Lauderdale in 1977.

Showalter and his wife, Angela, were married on March 5, 1983, and have two children. Their daughter, Allie St. Clair Showalter Robinson, was born on January 30, 1987, and married Andrew Robinson in 2013. Their son, William Nathaniel IV (Nathan), was born December 17, 1991, and is currently an Area Scout for the Orioles.

For more info on how to get involved with the Dr. Don Phillips Athletics Dinner, contact Tim Fritts at 601-925-7826.

